

## **DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

Western Region, 2735 Airport Way, Boise, Idaho 83705-5082 - (208) 334-2190 FAX (208) 334-2348

January 8, 2002

DIRK KEMPTHORNE
Governor
KARL J. DREHER
Director

LARY C WALKER ATTORNEY AT LAW PO BOX 828 WEISER ID 83672

Re:

Regulation of Weiser River Water Rights

Dear Mr. Walker:

In September 2001, I received a letter from Jay Edwards of the Weiser Irrigation District complaining about deliveries of water from the Weiser River. Mr. Edwards felt that the Middle Valley Ditch Co. was diverting water from the Weiser River that belonged to the Weiser Irrigation District. After receiving the letter from Mr. Edwards, I immediately contacted Bosco Bosler, watermaster for the Weiser River. Bosco and Jerry Myers, former watermaster retained as an assistant during the irrigation season of 2001, investigated the complaint. Bosco and Jerry determined there was sufficient water flowing below the Middle Valley Ditch diversion to satisfy Weiser Irrigation District's water rights. I understood that Bosco and Jerry met with officials from the Weiser Irrigation District. I also understood that the complaint was resolved. I did not write a response to the letter from Jay Edwards for two reasons. First, I thought the dispute had been properly resolved. Second, complaints about water delivery should be sent initially to the watermaster, not to the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR).

You sent me a letter on December 11, 2001. In your letter, you state that complaints were made to the watermaster but no action was taken to resolve this problem. The above actions by IDWR and the watermaster refute your allegation of no action. I am writing this letter to document that action was taken and the problem was thought to be resolved.

If there are additional concerns, I suggest they be discussed at the upcoming annual meeting for Water District No. 67, Weiser River. I also suggest, as water is delivered during the irrigation season, that Weiser Irrigation District communicate with the watermaster regarding these concerns. I have found Bosco Bosler to be a good listener and responsive to the water users concerns. I believe he already contacted you and discussed this matter after you sent the December 11, 2001 letter.

Respectfully,

Gary Spackman

GS:st

CC: Bosco Bosler

Jay Edwards